

- 6 a tag reader having means for periodically transmitting a signal to tag; and  
7 an alarm that is triggered if a piece of merchandise, whose tag identification has  
8 not been removed from said database, is removed outside a predefined area.--

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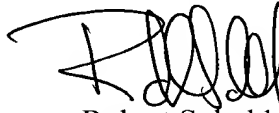
**Remarks**

Upon entry of the foregoing amendments, claims 76-105 are pending in the application. These changes are believed to introduce no new matter, and their entry is respectfully requested.

The Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned representative if he believes that an interview might be useful for any reason.

Respectfully submitted,

STERNE, KESSLER, GOLDSTEIN & FOX P.L.L.C.



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